

Item \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by Craig E. Willis  
Craig E. Willis

Approved by Assistant County Attorney

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE, REQUESTING THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS TO INITIATE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE STATE COURTS IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF SHELBY COUNTY TO IMPLEMENT A DISCRETIONARY E-FILING PILOT PROJECT FOR CIRCUIT, CHANCERY, PROBATE AND GENERAL SESSIONS COURTS. SPONSORED BY COMMISSIONER MULROY.**

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**WHEREAS**, in terms of the sheer volume of filings, the circuit, chancery, probate and general sessions courts in the Thirtieth Judicial District of Shelby County at Memphis are among the most active and busy in the State of Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, E-Filing, or electronic filing, if authorized and implemented in at the trial level in the Thirtieth Judicial District, even as a discretionary or optional procedure for filing, could lead to a substantial reduction in the volume of paper handled by the circuit, chancery, probate and general sessions court clerks; and

**WHEREAS**, a pilot project to allow discretionary E-Filing in the circuit, chancery, probate and general sessions courts of Shelby County would enable the clerks of these courts to gather useful empirical data on the cost savings and numerous efficiencies resulting from the implementation of E-Filing at the trial court level; and

**WHEREAS**, if E-Filing is authorized and implemented as a pilot project in the trial courts of Shelby County, both attorneys and litigants in these courts would have the opportunity to become familiar with the efficiencies, time saved and other benefits of E-Filing, thereby facilitating access to the courts and to justice; and

**WHEREAS**, if E-Filing is authorized and implemented as a pilot project in the trial courts of the Thirtieth Judicial District, individuals and businesses transacting business in the circuit, chancery, probate and general sessions courts would benefit from greater efficiency in the operations of the circuit, chancery, probate and general sessions court clerk offices, which also benefits the general public, citizens of Shelby County and Shelby County Government by helping to keep down expenditures of public monies and control the cost of local government and the operations of the courts.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE:**

Section 1. That this commission hereby requests the Tennessee Supreme Court Administrative Office of the Courts to initiate appropriate action to authorize the clerks of all state trial courts in the Thirtieth Judicial District, to include the circuit, chancery, probate and general sessions court clerks of Shelby County, to implement a discretionary E-Filing pilot project for a minimum two-year period, unless extended by appropriate authority or order.

Section 2. That it is requested the clerks of the circuit, chancery, probate and general sessions court clerks of Shelby County, during the pilot period, prepare an annual statistical report on the progress made in implementing E-Filing, the number of E-Filings, the projected costs savings and other benefits and efficiencies resulting from implementation of E-Filing, and submit said report and recommendations with regard to E-Filing to this Commission and any appropriate authority so requesting.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall take effect at the earliest date provided by law, the public health, safety and welfare requiring it.

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A C Wharton, Jr. Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

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Clerk of County Commission

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2009